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NOTES ON DIPTERA. NO. 6.

By J. M. Aldrich, U. S. National Museum.1

The Genus Pedicella or Macrosargus (Stratiomyiidae).—Bigot established the genus *Pedicella* in Annales Soc. ent. France, 1856, pp. 63 and 85, without species, and with a query each time. The slenderness of the abdomen was the only character. In Annales, 1879, p. 187, he proposes to substitute the new generic name *Macrosargus* for *Pedicella*, and places under the new name the following species: *Sargus tenebrifer* Walker, *Sargus natalensis* Macquart, and *Scaeva stamineus* Fabricius, from China, S. Africa, and Mexico, respectively.

He also adds with a query two other species.

Brauer, in Zweiflügler des Kais. Mus. Wien (Denkschr. Kais. Akad. Wiss., xliv), pt. 2, 1882, p. 88, designates Macrosargus tenuiventris Bigot as type of Macrosargus. This is a species which Bigot described among the other new ones much farther along in his 1879 paper (p. 225), but it was not mentioned in the preceding paragraph where he proposed the generic name. In my opinion, supported by high authority in nomenclature. Brauer's designation is not valid, the species not being among those originally included. I therefore designate Sargus tenebrifer Walker as type of Macrosargus. This Chinese species is easily recognizable and well represented in the U.S. National Museum collection. It belongs to the genus Ptecticus, erected in 1855, which therefore takes priority over both *Pedicella* and Macrosargus. This does away with much confusion as to the recognition of the very unsatisfactorily defined genus Pedicella. Our species of Sargus will go in Geosargus Bezzi, Wien. Ent. Ztg., xxvi, 1907, p. 53, proposed to replace Sargus preoccupied, and taking the same genotype, Musca cuprarius Linnaeus.

Change of name for Parasetigena segregata of authors.—Brauer and Bergenstamm proposed Parasetigena (Zweif. Kais. Mus., pt. 5, 1891, p. 339; pt. 6, 1893, p. 120) for *Chaetogena segregata* Rondani (Prod. Dipt. Ital., vol. 3, 1859, p. 7). Mik.

¹No. 5 of the present series was published in these Proceedings, vol. 33, 1931, pp. 116–121.

(Wien. Ent. Ztg., vol. 11, 1892, p. 117) stated that *Parasetigena* is antedated by *Duponchelia* Robineau-Desvoidy (Dipt. Env. Paris, vol. 1, 1863, p. 531, type species *silvestris*, new), but that the species *segregata* Rondani is prior to Robineau-Desvoidy's specific name in the genus. Bezzi in the Palaearctic Catalogue, vol. 3, did not accept *Duponchelia*, as he showed that it was twice preoccupied. Wainwright (Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond., 1928, p. 195) states that Brauer and Bergenstamm's *segregata* is not the same as Rondani's, but is *Duponchelia silvestris* Robineau-Desvoidy 1863, hence the name *silvestris* takes priority over it; the true *segregata* Rondani he does not know. Villeneuve (Bull. et Ann. Soc. ent. Belg., vol. 59, 1929, p. 105) accepts

Wainwright's disposition of the species.

Since Duponchelia is preoccupied, Parasetigena remains valid if sufficiently distinct from Phorocera. Aldrich and Webber (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. 63, art. 17, 1924, p. 44), regarded it as a subgenus of Phorocera. Wainwright (op. cit., p. 161) says that Phorocera has discal abdominal bristles and 3 post-sutural dorsocentrals, while Parasetigena has no discals and 4 dorsocentrals. European specimens of segregata (B. B.'s sense) in the U. S. National Museum, determined by Villeneuve and Coquillett, show bristly discal hairs sometimes approaching the size of bristles. I still think that Parasetigena is no more than a subgenus, hence would call the species Phorocera (Parasetigena) silvestris R. D., or for short simply Phorocera silvestris R. D.

Pachychaeta jarowchewskyi Portschinsky.

This species was listed by Brauer and Bergenstamm (Zweif. Kais. Mus., v. 1891, p. 403) as from "Russ. Amer.," which naturally appears to mean Alaska. But this was a slip of the pen for "Russ. mer.," or southern Russia. I noted the species as occurring in Alaska in my Catalogue, 1905, p. 421, but at the time could find no reference to the original description. It was published in Horae Soc. Ent. Ross., xvi, 1881, p. 278, where the locality is given as "Ross. merid." It may therefore be dropped from the American list.

The Status of Oedemagena terrae-novae Knab.—This species was described by Knab in Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, vol. 26, 1914, p. 155. It was based on four females, three, including type, being from Stephenville Bay, St. George, Newfoundland, and one from Deel Lake, Newfoundland, the last bred from the caribou of Newfoundland, Rangifer terraenovae (A. Hassall). Knab erroneously states that the first series consists of two specimens, but there are three in the U. S. National Museum, all labeled alike.

The principal character of the species is the uniformly yellow coloration of the abdominal pile, that of *tarandi* being red on the two intermediate segments. Minute differences were alleged in the shape of the eye, width and convexity of frons, and length of abdominal pile. Knab, however, was somewhat

doubtful of the distinctness of his form.

In quite recent years a long series of *tarandi* from reindeer in Alaska has been deposited by the Biological Survey in the U. S. National Museum, some 150 specimens in all. While the pile of the intermediate abdominal segments is quite generally red, a few vary in having it more yellow. In three specimens it is entirely yellow, and in several others the red tinge is slight, bridging over the difference completely. The other characters when carefully compared with this series are imperceptible—Knab admitted that they were very slight.

I therefore conclude that *terrae-novae* is a synonym of *tarandi*, although the fact that all the Newfoundland specimens so far known (four) have the yellow abdominal pile may possibly give

it the status of a color form for that region.

New Name for COLLINELLULA Aldrich.

In August, 1928, the International Entomological Congress met at Ithaca, New York, under the auspices of Cornell University, with a large attendance, including many from abroad. The management arranged a picnic at Taughannock Falls for August 19, which was an immense affair with about 500 in attendance and admirably carried out. On this occasion Mr. I. E. Collin, of Newmarket, England, captured a good series of a remarkable new genus and species of Dolichopodidae, which he left with me for description. After some delay I published this as *Collinellula magistri*, new genus and species, in Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. 81, art. 9, 1932, p. 4. I intended to signalize Mr. Collin's ability as a collector by both the generic and specific names. But just as I was correcting the page proofs I had a letter from Dr. G. Enderlein, of Berlin, with a sketch of the wing of the male of the same species; he asked its name, remarking that it must be a well-known species, as he had obtained a series at Taughannock Falls on the day of the picnic. I could only add a footnote giving Dr. Enderlein a share in the achievement, which was all the more remarkable since two Europeans had collected the species within a few miles of Cornell University and in the same State with Mr. Van Duzee. whose intensive work on the family is well known.

Unfortunately I overlooked the fact that Duda had proposed the same generic name, *Collinellula*, for a subgenus of Borboridae, in Archiv für Naturgeschichte, 1926 A, p. 48; this was to replace

Collinella in the same family, a preoccupied name.

I now propose ENLINIA, new name, for *Collinellula* Aldrich, in honor of both collectors, and regret that it is too late to change the specific name to the genitive plural.

The Status of Dimorphomyia calliphoroides Bigot.—This was described by Bigot in Bull. Soc. ent. France, 1885, p. clxxiii, from Mexico. The describer mentioned that the head appeared to be syrphid in structure, while the wing was muscid. Brauer later examined the type and reported on it in Sitzungsber. Kais. Akad. Wien, cvii, 1898, p. 506. He stated that he could see glue between the head and body, proving that the specimen was composite, or an artifact. This raised a question as to the proper disposal of the name. In my 1905 Catalogue I mentioned it in a note only.

Later I examined the type myself, in the Collin collection. The head is easily recognizable as the common Mexican Asemosyrphus mexicanus, in which the ocelli are very far apart, an unusual character. The body is that of a small Calliphora, but is a female and unrecognizable without its proper head.

The case is analogous with those in which a type series contains more than one species, and a later reviser is obliged to designate which is to be the true type. I therefore designate the head as the type of Dimorphomyia calliphoroides; this makes the genus Dimorphyomyia a synonym of Asemosyrphus Bigot (genotype Asemosyrphus oculiferus Bigot, hereby designated, equals Helophilus mexicanus Macquart), and the species calliphoroides a synonym of mexicanus Macquart.

The Status of the Genus Spallanzania Robineau-Desvoidy.— This genus was proposed by Robineau-Desvoidy in Myodaires, 1830, p. 78, with two species, *picea* and *gallica*, both new. Coquillett designated *gallica* as genotype (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 37, 1910, p. 606). Both species were in Robineau's own collection.

Robineau, in Annales Soc. ent. France (II), 9, 1851, p. 317, gives a new definition of the genus and includes *Tachina hebes* Fallen with *gallica* as a synonym; this is repeated in his post-humous Dipteres des Environs de Paris, 1, 1863, p. 749. He places *picea* in *Reaumuria*, 1851, p. 314, but in Env., 1863, p. 747, he again places it in *Spallanzania*, mentioning that the species is in Bigot's collection.

The immediate problem is to ascertain whether gallica, the genotype, is really a synonym of hebes. If so, Cnephalia is a synonym of Spallanzania; if not, the identity of gallica is obscure and the genus unidentified and probably unidentifiable.

Turning to Robineau's descriptions of *Spallanzania*, his first one reads (translation): "Characters of *Rhedia* and *Reaumuria*: antennae situated in a little deeper groove, second joint

longer than in *Rhedia* and shorter than in *Reaumuria*; second joint of arista straight. Facial ridges not ciliate. Color black." Now *Rhedia* and *Reaumuria* are generally accepted as synonyms of *Gonia*, Robineau having placed the males of his species in *Rhedia*, with long third antennal joint, and his females in *Reaumuria*, the third joint being shorter and the second correspondingly lengthened. These characters in this group have slight importance. The main character then is the presence of a deeper antennal groove in *Spallanzania*. This certainly does not occur in *hebes*, where the groove is very shallow in the female, and in the male is less deep than in *Gonia*.

His second description reads (translation):

"Antennae shorter, hardly reaching epistoma; second aristal segment short, straight, not semiarcuate. Bare on the face, the parafacials (optica) without cilia; those of the facial ridges of moderate size, ascending to the middle of the face."

While this description of the antennae fits hebes better than Gonia, on account of the shorter penultimate segment of the arista, there is an absolute disagreement regarding the parafacials (optica of Robineau) since in hebes the presence of numerous bristly and conspicuous hairs on the parafacials is one of

the principal characters.

My conclusion is that Robineau did not have the true hebes. It may be granted that he did have his own gallica before him, although I am not certain even of this much. The types of both original species of Spallanzania are lost, and the identification of the genus must rest upon that of the genotype gallica. It is practically an unknown genus, but hebes does not belong

to it, in my opinion.

This outcome is in harmony with European usage, since the genus Cnephalia (Rondani, Dipt. Ital. Prod., 1, 1856, p. 62, type des., "Gonia hebes Mg.") has been generally accepted there and is the next later generic name. Schiner, Austriaca, 1, 1862, p. 445, states that Rondani's hebes is really Tachina bucephala Meigen, as Rondani sent him a specimen. This error of Rondani is trivial, since Stein (Archiv f. Naturgeschichte, 91, 1924, p. 120), with the apparent approval of Dr. Villeneuve, makes bucephala a variety or perhaps a mere color from of hebes.

The American nomenclature has been different since Coquillett, in his Revision of 1897, p. 134, accepted *Spallanzania*, including *Acroglossa hesperidarum* Williston, *hebes* Fallen (as

North American), and antennalis, new.

Without following the accumulated American literature in detail, I will merely offer the opinion that *hebes* does occur in this country (on the basis of comparison with eight European

specimens); that pansa Snow (Kans. Univ. Quart., III, 1895, p. 182) is a varietal form of it; that antennalis belongs to a distinct genus (Chaetocrania Townsend, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 28, 1915, p. 23); and that Acroglossa is a valid genus for hesperidarum Williston.

TWO REARED SPECIES OF TACHINIDAE FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

By J. M. Aldrich, U. S. National Museum.

Specimens of two species of Tachinidae, reared in Brazil and British Guiana by J. G. Myers, were recently received from Sir Guy A. K. Marshall, Director of the Imperial Institute of Entomology, with request for identifications. One of the species had very striking characters and I drew up a description as a new genus and species. The other was not of striking form and I thought it best to send the specimens to Dr. Townsend in Brazil to see if he could connect them with any of his numerous described Brazilian genera and species. I sent along a specimen of my supposed new genus in order that he might record the characters in his index. To my surprise he reported that this had already been described by him, as Metagonistylum minense; the other species was not the same as any of his.

The original description of *Metagonistylum minense* is not readily accessible and is written in Portuguese with abbreviations, and moreover gives only a few points of structure; it therefore seems worth while to publish my description of both the genus and the species, especially since the fly now appears

to have economic importance.

METAGONISTYLUM Townsend.

Metagonistylum Townsend, Revista Mus. Paulista, vol. 15, 1926, p. 379.

Allied to *Penthosia* Van der Wulp (type *Scopolia satanica* Bigot, from Mexico), but differs in many characters, especially in the great elongation of the first and second antennal joints, greater prominence of the frons, and first posterior cell open. Head as figured (fig. 1), first antennal joint greatly elongated, second also elongated, the third slender, much elongated, concave above, widening at apex; arista with distinctly elongated penultimate joint, the terminal one thickened almost to apex, bare; face very strongly receding; length of head at oral margin hardly one-half of that at antennae; front broad in both sexes, but narrower in male; parafrontals and parafacials wide; ocellar bristles present, proclinate and divergent, uppermost frontal reclinate, the second slightly so; male without orbitals, female with two; lowest frontals diverging below the level of antennal insertion; parafacial bare; facial ridges low and flat with a few hairs below; clypeus with shallow concavity, not at all protruding below; palpi normal, proboscis normal, short; eyes bare; cheek about one-fifth of eye